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B11

USSR

From: WASHINGTON

To: MOSCOW

No: 731

3 Apr. 43

To [unidentified name][1]

The newspaper "RUSSKIY GOLOS" of 2nd April reports according to information from MADRID:

1. GERMANY has requisitioned all French shipping and is using Italians for the possible evacuation of Italians and German troops from TUNIS. Roughly speaking (according to "Axis" information) 750,000 tons are required for meeting the needs of the troops and 260,000 tons for equipment, fighting [1 word unrecovered] and so on.
2. In SICILY and southern ITALY extra aerodromes have been built in order to [1% arrange powerful] [1 group unrecovered] [1% air force in the evacuation].
3. The strength of the "Axis" in TUNIS according to the same information is 180,000 men.
4. The subordination of [1% the Italian Navy] to German [1% leadership] according to information from ROME has given rise to [10 groups unrecovered]. The delivery of these [1 group unrecovered] is doubtful.
5. From personal conversations:
 - (a) With an officer of the U.S. Navy - heavy shipping losses in March and the continuing activity of "Axis" submarines in the ATLANTIC are causing the American High Command grave concern about the maintenance of war supplies for the Allied troops in AFRICA. This could affect operations in AFRICA and EUROPE.
 - (b) With Indian officers - INDIA has sent to AFRICA and the NEAR EAST a total of over 450,000 national troops. The national army of INDIA has been brought up to 1,650,000 men. INDIA's war industry is meeting 82% of her own needs and [1 group unrecovered] a considerable quantity of BRITAIN's.

No. 255

[Unidentified name][11]

Comments: [1] Unidentified name : Name no. 42.

[11] Unidentified name : Name no. 91.

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